

Cocopah Tribe



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COCOPAH TRIBE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

Regional Allocation: \$78,228

Allocation includes population and discretionary allocations. The Discretionary allocation includes the baseline adjustment, frontier community and emergency scholarship funds directed back to the Regional Council)

Prioritized Needs	Proposed Strategies	Portion of Regional Allocation	Recommendation to the Board
Parent education and support that is culturally sensitive and specific to the families' needs.	Strategy 1- Home Visitation	\$13,791	Approved 12/08
Parenting skills training and education related to specific issues such as extended family dynamics, grandparents raising grandchildren, teen pregnancy and parenting newborn care and development, family literacy, and child behavior and discipline.	Strategy 2- Parenting Skills Training	\$1,500	Approved 12/08
Support, education and development for family caregivers.	Strategy 3- Family Care Support	\$4,100	Approved 12/08
For implementation purposes the Regional Council has integrated the above three strategies and increased funding levels from \$19,391 to \$68,734 using the baseline adjustment allocation.			
Educational and professional development for the early childhood education staff to provide high quality care and education.	Strategy 4- T.E.A.C.H.	DISCRETIONARY REQUEST \$3,450 The Regional Council used the frontier community and the redirected the child care scholarships allocations to fund this strategy.	Approved 5/09

Knowledge and information about the importance of early childhood development and health.	Strategy 5- Statewide Communications Campaign	\$0 DISCRETIONARY REQUEST \$581	Removed as strategy from Regional Funding Plan
Outreach, communication and coordination of services for young children and families.	Strategy 6- Parenting Exposition	UNFUNDED	Approved 12/08
Community awareness, education and support for early childhood development, education and health.	Strategy 7- Community Awareness	UNFUNDED	Approved 12/08
Families facing financial hardship	Emergency Response Plan: Food Boxes	\$1,248	Approved 2/09
Professional Development opportunities for early care and education professionals	New Strategy— Training Scholarships	\$4,800	Recommended for Approval 8/09
	Regional Needs & Assets	\$0	HOLD
	Subtotal Expenditures	\$78,228	
	Fund Balance	\$0	
	Grand Total	\$78,228	



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July 14, 2009

First Things First

Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board

4000 N. Central Ave.

Phoenix, AZ 85012

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Dear Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board Members,

The Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council would like to recommend an additional strategy to our funding plan. We are pleased to submit the following strategy for your consideration: Specialized Training Opportunities for Early Childhood Educators: Increase access to high quality training opportunities that will improve the skills of the early childhood educators working with children ages birth to five in the Cocopah community.

The 2008 Needs and Assets Report illustrates that the region has a Head Start center that serves 20 children. Also, there is one child care center that currently serves 2 children that are under the age of five, although that number increases in the summer months when Head Start is on break. There are no licensed in-home child care providers in the region, and there are no licensed providers serving the population of children less than three years of age. The Regional Council sees culturally appropriate education and professional development as a priority in allowing the community access to quality child care choices. Already as part of the existing, approved funding plan, the Regional Council will be funding one TEACH scholarship for the region.

The geographic location of the region provides a major disadvantage to participating in any early childhood training opportunities. The Tribe's current resources do not allow for the traveling expenses required for early caregivers and teachers to attend and learn from a high quality conference or training. This proposed professional development strategy involves an approach that is culturally appropriate and geographically sensitive. The "project grants" included in the strategy allow for a train-the-trainer method, and the model, not only proliferates the new knowledge and techniques, it also empowers the staff that then become the expert on that subject matter.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

H. Jill McCormick

Chair, Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council

☎ 928-343-3020

☎ 928-343-4710

🌐 www.azftf.gov

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council

100 E. 24th Street

Ste. 2

Yuma, AZ 85364

COCOPAH TRIBE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
Strategy Recommendation

Strategy 8: Specialized training for early childhood educators to increase access to high quality training opportunities that will improve the skills of the early childhood educators working with children ages birth to five in the Native American community.

The Regional Partnership Council recognizes the need for the region's early childhood care and education providers' accessibility to professional development and training opportunities. The Cocopah Tribe region is rural and located a far distance from the metropolitan areas such as Phoenix and Tucson, where most (if not all) specialized training opportunities are offered. Due to the expense of traveling to attend these trainings, workshops, and conferences, the early childhood staff in the region is rarely able to utilize those resources.

In an effort to improve the quality of early education and care for the children in the region, provide resourceful professional development opportunities, and make an impact on staff retention, the Regional Partnership Council has strategized to create specialized training opportunities. Conference Scholarships will be made available for early childhood educators to attend conferences and workshops that will improve their teaching skills and enhance their networking opportunities with resources and professional support. The conference must be relevant to the early childhood educators' present and future goals in early education within the region and must be relevant to indigenous early education, family support, early intervention, or other topics regarding the healthy development and education of young children in Native American communities. The conference scholarships must be approved prior to attending the conference. The conference scholarships will benefit the children of the region by providing opportunities for diverse, culturally relevant, and early childhood focused training.

Additionally, the Regional Council recognizes the need to support the early childhood educator/conference grant recipient to have the resources to implement the knowledge and skills that were learned by their attendance at the conference. The conference grant recipient's new knowledge will be more beneficial when they are able to also impact their peers' work and relationships with children ages birth to five. Project grants will be made available for the early childhood educator to develop onsite trainings, classroom materials, or other resources for fellow teachers and caregivers. A conference scholarship request will not be considered without the requestor's expressed intent to share the ideas, models, curriculum, etc. upon completing the conference or training workshop. The project grants will allow for greater practical benefits from the early childhood educators' conference participation.

Recognized conferences:

Southwestern Institute for the Education of Native Americans (SIENA)- Provided in Arizona

National Association for the Education of Young Children (local affiliates)

Southwest Consortium of Indian Head Start Programs

First Things First Early Childhood Summit- Provided in Arizona

Arizona Department of Education- Provided in Arizona

National Indian Child Care Association (NICCA)- Conference location rotates

COCOPAH TRIBE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
Strategy Recommendation

Lead Goal: Build a skilled and well-prepared early childhood development workforce.

Goal: Increase the retention of the early care and education workforce.

Key Measures:

1. Retention rates of early childhood development and health professionals.

Target Population (Description of the population to reach):

The Target Population is the early childhood teachers, support staff, and caregivers of children ages birth to five in the community. The proposed service numbers are three, however the Regional Council foresees that the impact will be multiplied by the implementation of the project grants.

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
	3	1	1

Performance Measures 2009-2011

1. Number of early childhood teachers or caregivers that reported increased knowledge in early childhood development and education after participation/ Service number
2. Number of early childhood teachers or caregivers that report increased knowledge in early childhood development and education after participating in a local learning activity provided through a Project Grant/ Service number
3. Number of early childhood teachers or caregivers successfully completed trainings/ Proposed service number
4. Percentage of early childhood professionals retained for two years/ Current retention rate

- How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists?

This strategy builds on the current system by providing professional development and networking opportunities for the existing staff members who work with young children and their families. Studies have shown that providing employees with opportunities to attend conferences, trainings, and workshops increases staff retention, especially in the field of education.

- What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment?

The conference scholarships offered by the Regional Partnership Council cannot supplant those professional development opportunities already existing for the employees. This additional funding will allow for the early childhood staff to attend and learn from conferences that are specifically focused on early childhood and Native American children, and will align with the conferences and trainings accounted for in the Head Start and Child Care programs' budgets, as well as any job-skill training or educational advancement opportunities offered through the Cocopah Indian Tribe.

SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy (How much of the total allocation will go to this strategy)

Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$4,800
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COCOPAH TRIBE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
Strategy Recommendation

Budget Justification:

To allow for the maximum benefit of the allocated funds, the Regional Council is requesting to work with First Things First Staff as the "administrative home" for these scholarships and grants.

3 Conference Scholarships

(maximum of 2 out-of-state scholarships at \$1,400 each).....\$2,800

(in-state scholarships at a maximum of \$890 each).....\$890

- Expenses may include conference registration, accommodation, and travel costs
 - Conference Registration Fee (\$299)
 - Meal Reimbursement (almost all Conference Registration Fees include a continental breakfast and lunch) \$27/day for 4 days (\$108)
 - Travel Reimbursement \$.445/mile at 400 miles roundtrip (based on travel from Somerton, AZ to Phoenix, AZ) (\$178)
 - Airfare (based on travel within the Southwestern United States) roundtrip (\$375)
 - Hotel Accommodations (\$275)
 - Rental car (including cost of gas) (\$165)

3 Project Grants (dependent upon the presented project line item budget developed by the conference attendee/ grant recipient)\$1,110

Total\$4,800